

Borough of Bexhill.

Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report

FOR

Year ended DECEMBER 31st, 1918,

INCLUDING

Report of the Sanitary Inspector,

AND THE

Report of the Medical Inspection of
Children in Elementary Schools.

Borough of Bexhill.

Area of the Borough	...	...	8,013 acres
Rateable Value	...	...	£130,928
Population, Somerset House estimate	{ 14,122 for Death rate. 15,823 „ Birth „		
Number of Houses	...	...	3,668
Gross Death Rate	...	...	17 13
Corrected ditto	...	...	14·31 *
Birth Rate, Somerset House estimate	16·75		
Infantile Mortality Rate	..	...	67·92
Death Rate from Zymotic Diseases	0·28		
Comparative Mortality Figure, <i>i.e.</i> compared with England and Wales, as 1,000.	} 813		

* Corrected by Factor.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Nov. 1917—Nov. 1918.

THE MAYOR—J. B. WALL, ESQ.

THE DEPUTY-MAYOR—Alderman G. H. GRAY (*Chairman*).

Mr. Alderman F. BOND, M.A.

„ „ J. GIBB.

„ „ J. A. PATON, J.P.

Mr. Councillor T. BODLE.

„ „ R. H. BURSTOW.

„ „ G. COPPARD.

„ „ F. S. DUNN.

„ „ W. HARDIE.

„ „ E. JAMES.

„ „ C. J. KOHLER.

„ „ J. ROGERS.

„ „ J. E. STEVENS.

„ „ F. W. VANE, I.S.O.

„ „ C. G. YOUNG, M.A., M.D.

In Nov. 1917, MR. G. H. GRAY was re-elected Chairman.

Staff.

(Medical Officer of Health :

G. H. WESTON, B.A., M.B., D.P.H., Camb., &c.

Sanitary Inspector :

ALFRED FLINT, A.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk :

MISS H. BUDDEN.

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Bexhill.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1918.

During the year Canadian Troops have been quartered in Bexhill, and the Down Council School has been placed at their service.

In addition they have occupied nearly all the empty houses. The branch Tuberculosis Dispensary was opened in North Street by the East Sussex County Council and has already proved a great service.

Arrangements have been made for a Venereal Disease Clinic at the East Sussex Hospital.

It is hoped that the end of the War will secure the return of facilities for dealing with Tuberculosis milk ; to be really effective the action taken should be in conjunction with neighbouring Authorities.

The work of the Department has been largely increased by the number of discharged Soldiers, convalescent from Dysentery, Malaria, and Tuberculosis, who have returned to their homes.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

G. H. WESTON.

Population, &c.

The area of the District is 8,013 acres. There are 521 acres of foreshore, and 11 acres of inland water. The Borough is situated partly on the sea front and partly on gentle slopes rising behind to 150 feet above sea level. It is thus open throughout its whole extent to the sea breezes from the south and west but is partly protected on the north and east. Owing to the fact that the North Sea and Channel tides meet in its vicinity the climate partakes of the advantages of the winds brought by both, and is mild, bracing, and, from the number of open spaces, airy.

There are no manufactories or occupation especially injurious to health.

The character of the population is residential, with a relatively large number of hotels and apartment houses. There are also a number of private preparatory schools. The houses inhabited by the working classes are mostly of modern date and have plenty of air space around them, but in consequence of the relatively high rentals, often more than one family inhabit the same house in flats or otherwise. During the War in consequence of many of the heads of families having enlisted this condition has tended to increase.

The figures of population as given by Somerset House are for—

Death rate	-	-	14,122.
Birth rate	-	-	15,823.

These last figures are based on the assumption that the ratio between total and civilian population is the same in the district as in England and Wales as a whole.

For these reasons the estimate for Bexhill would appear too low.

The census returns of 1911, taken early in the year, gave a population of 15,330, including 6,065 males and 9,265 females, and composed of 3,314 families or separate occupiers, a larger number than that of the separate houses built at that time.

The number of houses erected and certified as fit for occupation during the year was 6 making a total of 3,668 houses.

The number of unoccupied houses shows a decrease.

Year	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
Unoccupied Houses	105	85	135	103	73	51

The population has been calculated on a basis of 4.2 persons per house.

The following table shews the rate of increase in the population at the census years since 1891

Year	1891	1901	1911	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
	<i>census</i>	<i>census</i>	<i>census</i>	<i>est.</i>	<i>est.</i>	<i>est.</i>	<i>est.</i>	<i>est.</i>
Pop.	5026	12210	15331	16454	14546	*13972	*13900	*14122

*For death rate only.

Density of population 1·89 persons per acre.

During the year ending December 31st, 1918, the amount of out-relief given was £340 14s. od.

During the year 1918 the unemployment claims made numbered 1, but no payment was found necessary.

The number of patients treated at the Hospitals (in and out) was:—Buchanan, in 23, out 54; East Sussex, in 90, out 300

The distribution of the population according to the Wards is approximately estimated and shewn in the following table.

Ward.	Persons per House.	Population.	Houses erec'd during year 1918.	Total number of houses.
Sackville ..	6·1	3050	—	508
Central ..	3·9	4243	—	1103
Egerton Park	1·0	2640	4	672
Old Town ..	3·8	2185	—	658
St. Mark's ..	3·9	2788	2	727
Average	4·2	15206	6	3,668

Births.

The total number of births as given by Somerset House including those from outside the district is 129 males and 136 females.

There were 41 illegitimate births: 21 males, 20 females.

Proportion of legitimate births to total births ... ·845.

„ „ illegitimate „ „ „ ... ·155.

The Birth Rate for Bexhill this year was 16·75 per 1,000 of population.

The following table gives the number of births registered, divided into males and females for this district, compared with those for the combined counties of England and Wales for the years stated.

Year.	No. of Births.	Male.	Female.	BEXHILL.	England & Wales.
				Birth Rate per 1,000.	
1909	241	118	123	14.87	25.6
1910	250	133	117	15.13	24.8
1911	248	133	115	16.00	24.4
1912	255	136	119	16.21	23.8
1913	244	120	124	15.25	23.9
1914	227	102	125	13.79	23.8
1915	236	116	120	16.2	21.8
1916	236	121	115	16.64	21.6
1917	202	92	110	13.1	17.8
1918	265	129	136	16.75	17.7

Table giving number of births in each Ward.

Ward.	No. of Births.	Male.	Female.	Birth Rate.
Sackville ... (0 illegitimate)	31	15	16	10.1
Central ... (12 illegitimate)	84	37	47	19.7
Egerton Park ... (2 illegitimate)	34	21	13	12.8
Old Town ... (6 illegitimate)	57	23	34	22.9
St. Mark's ... (4 illegitimate)	53	31	22	19.0

Deaths.

There were 181 deaths registered in the district, and 40 residents who died outside during the year, of which 92 were males and 129 females. There were 21 deaths of visitors registered.

The gross death rate 17.13, includes all the deaths occurring in the Borough and those of residents who have died outside the district.

After deducting the deaths of visitors and those of temporary residents in the various homes and including those residents who have died out of the district, the corrected Death Rate = 14.31 per 1,000.

The death rate for England and Wales per 1000 living	17.6
" " 96 Great Towns (including Lond.)	18.2
" " 148 Smaller Towns	16.1
" " London	18.9

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.	Corrected Death Rate.	Death Rate of England and Wales.
1909	161	9.93	7.84	14.5
1910	131	7.93	6.66	13.4
1911	196	12.64	10.70	14.6
1912	171	10.87	9.31	13.3
1913	186	11.51	9.47	13.7
1914	181	11.00	9.48*	13.7
1915	237	16.05	13.55*	14.8
1916	217	15.53	12.97	14.0
1917	211	15.17	15.03*	14.4
1918	204	14.44	14.31*	17.6

* Corrected by Factor.

The following tables gives the number of deaths occurring in each Ward.

Ward.	No. of Deaths.	Gross Death Rate.	Corrected Death Rate.	No. in Nursing Homes and Institutions.
Sackville ...	59	19.3	19.1	33
Central ...	58	13.6	13.48	14
Egerton Park ...	23	8.7	8.62	3
Old Town ...	46	18.5	18.33	9
St. Mark's ...	35	12.5	12.3	12

Senile Mortality.

There were in 1918, 79 deaths of persons over 65 years of age.

Deaths due to Accident or Violence.

There were 4 deaths due to these causes this year, all which occurred within the Borough and 3 suicides. In 9 cases altogether inquests were held.

Uncertified Deaths.

By permission of the Coroner there were 2 deaths certified.

One death was, in the light of subsequent case, probably due to Membranous Croup, and the other to want of attention at birth.

One was reported from outside, due to Arterio Sclerosis.

Infantile Mortality.

Infantile Mortality is calculated on the number of registered births, and in this connection "infants" are children under one year of age. During the year the number of infant deaths in the district was 12 males and 6 females.

The number of births being 265, this gives a rate of 67.92 per 1000.

Legitimate births	40 22.
Illegitimate births	219.7.

The infantile mortality for Bexhill	67.92 per 1000 births.
England and Wales	97 "
96 Great Towns (including London)	106 "
148 Smaller Towns	94 "
London	107 "

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.

There were 4 deaths from this group of diseases, within the district. Military cases are excluded.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS.

1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
0.31	0.12	0.12	1.16	0.31	0.50	0.54	0.82	0.27	0.57	0.28

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908-1911.

During the year 1918, the following notifications have been made :—

Primary Notifications (Forms A and B)

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	32	} visitors 11
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	10	

Secondary Notifications (Forms C and D)

To and from Sanatoria	...	9
From Poor Law Union (Battle)	...	0

The Sanatoria included Hastings, Eversfield, Hove and King Edward VII.

There were 12 deaths from Pulmonary Forms amongst residents and 1 of visitor.

There were 3 deaths from Tuberculous Meningitis.

There were 2 deaths of visitors from other Tuberculosis Disease.

YEARS OF AGE.

FORM A.	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis								
Males	...	...	...	4	7	4	1	16
Females	...	...	...	3	9	2	2	16
Other forms of Tuberculosis								
Males	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	3
Females	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	7
	...	...	3	9	20	6	4	42

Infectious Diseases

The Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1889, and Notification Act, 1890, are both in force requiring the Notification of Small Pox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membraneous Croup, Erysipelas, Scarlatina, Scarlet Fever, and the following fevers:—Typhus, Typhoid or Enteric, Relapsing, Continued, or Puerperal. To these Acute Polio-Myelitis and Cerebro Spinal Fever were added in 1912, and Measles and Rotheln in 1892. Measles and Rotheln were made notifiable during 1917 as far as the first case in each house is concerned.

There were 54 throat swabs sent for examination for the Diphtheria (*Klebs Loeffler*) Bacillus at the expense of the Council.

Forty-two were sent from the Hospital to establish freedom from infectivity before discharge, 10 proved positive and 32 negative. As a routine method, swabs are sent up for examination in all cases of suspected Diphtheria at the Council's expense in necessitous cases before notification.

The cost of the examination was paid by the Council.

During the year 208 cases of notifiable Diseases were notified at a cost of £7 14s. od.

This table shows the monthly incidence of the Infectious Diseases notified in the district among the civil population by Medical Practitioners.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Measles ...	5	5	9	8	7	13	9	6			2	
Rotheln ...	2			2	2		1			1		1
Scarlet Fever ...					1					1	1	
Diphtheria ...	1			1	9	1	2	1	1		1	
Erysipelas ...									1			
Puerperal Fever ...												
Typhoid Fever ...										1		
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis				1								
Acute Poliomyelitis											1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum												
Tuberculosis	2	5	6	2	4	2	3	4	5	3	8	3
Pulmonary												
Other ...	1	2	3		2				1		2	

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified for the past 10 years among the civil population.

	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
Scarlet Fever ...	18	25	4	29	39	25	16	11	8	3
Diphtheria ...	7	26	7	9	2	6	22	18	6	17
*Measles ...	64	25	88	200	124	342		27	259	117
Rotheln ...	5		66	12	8	7		46	57	9
Typhoid Fever	2	2	4	2			5		1	1
Puerperal Fever		2	1	1						
Erysipelas...	3	1	5	2	2	7	3	2	4	1
Membran's Croup				1						
Ophthalmia Neonatorum						2		2	4	
Meningitis ...						1	1			
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis							5		2	1
Tuberculosis Pulmonary						42	49	21	41	47
Other ...						9	7	3	2	11
Acute Poliomyelitis										1
Total ...	99	81	974	256	175	441	108	130	384	208

Military Cases Notified.

During the year the following cases occurred among the soldiers stationed in Hastings district and elsewhere.

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3
Measles	..	...	...	2
Rotheln	...	...	...	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary...	...	...	...	2
			Total	<u>7</u>

Measles.

During the year 64 cases of Measles were notified by Medical Practitioners and 53 cases notified by parents.

A few cases of Measles of severe type appeared in the spring chiefly amongst soldiers for whom a Military Hospital had been provided in Bexhill. One death of a soldier occurred and one civilian died.

Enteric Fever.

One case of Paratyphoid type was notified. Isolated at a Nursing Home and recovered.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

One case was notified in April, the wife of a Canadian soldier who was removed to Isolation Hospital and made a good recovery. The swabbing of contacts proved negative.

In another case Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis was certified as the cause of death. The history of the case and the fact that Influenza and Pneumonia had caused the death of another child in the same house a few days before, made it more probable that the disease was of pneumococcal origin.

Scarlet Fever.

Six cases of Scarlet Fever were dealt with, of which five were removed to the Hospital, three were Military imported from outside, and of the three Civilian, one was shown to have been imported.

In addition, three soldiers were admitted to Hospital for observation, but the presence of this disease was not confirmed.

Diphtheria.

There were 17 cases of Diphtheria notified, and 16 admitted to Isolation Hospital, 9 of which were admitted from Nazareth House, being children who from previous conditions would be specially liable.

The epidemic amongst them was started by an imported carrier and only yielded to protective antitoxin injection of all contacts.

Two deaths occurred.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

The death of a child having been reported due to this cause, enquiries were made showed that a child of two years of age had died after three days' illness of convulsions and Hemiplegia, a notification was afterwards given,

Epidemic Influenza.

In accordance with instructions of November 3rd, 1918, information under the various headings has been collected.

Influenza appeared in various parts of East Sussex as among troops in Crowborough and Hastings in July.

In a mild form it spread to Bexhill, attacking one Elementary School only, no deaths were then reported.

In a virulent form it recurred in October and reached its maximum at the end of the third week, when most of the Elementary Schools were attacked, the duration of the maximum intensity was about one month.

A certain number of bacteriological examinations were made of sputa from serious cases, which showed pneumococci often in chains.

Bexhill became infected at a later date than the adjoining Borough of Hastings.

The disease then not being notifiable it has been difficult to secure from the Doctors facts relating to duration of incubation period or infectivity.

The latter appears to have coincided with the presence of discharges. Many of the fatal cases have shown heliotrope colour, acute Toxæmia, rapid pulse from onset and petechial patches before and after death, which has in cases occurred on the third or fourth day. Drugs appearing of no value, I have advocated the use of injections, but perhaps owing to the doubts as to their advisability shown by the special literature and the possibility of their dangerously increasing the (negative phase) I have not succeeded in getting a sufficient trial to make statistics of value.

The Local Authority have distributed circulars and advised through the Local Press on lines suggested by the Board. Most of the Elementary Schools were closed during the month of maximum incidence, partly because most of the children still attending showed the disease in a minor form and partly from the teachers themselves having been attacked. Amongst the Canadian troops quartered in Bexhill no death from Influenza has been reported.

YEARS OF AGE.

		0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	65 & upw'ds	Total
MALES—			3	5	1	1	...	3	3	16
Occupation	Indoor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
	Outdoor	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	2	
School	Private	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Elementary	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	
FEMALES—			1	5	5	7	1	1	6	26
Occupation	Indoor	...	...	...	4	7	1	1	6	
	Outdoor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
School	Private	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	
	Elementary	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	
										42

The distribution by Ward was :—

Ward.	No. of Deaths.	Remarks.
Sackville ..	11	Mainly residential.
Central ..	10	Business and working class.
Egerton Park	3	Mainly residential.
Old Town ..	13	Mostly working class.
St. Mark's ..	5	Chiefly working class.

Influenza death rate 2.97.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

This disease was not notifiable during year.

I have through the courtesy of the Medical Attendant been able to secure some information of a case which he had diagnosed as such. The notes were given to me after the case had recovered.

Age 63. Sex F. Onset sudden, found asleep June 25th, when roused sank into lethargic state, temperature 101° F., deepening almost to coma. (Relieved by lumbar puncture). Then continued sleeping, but to less depth for 14 days.

Strabismus beforehand, no definite increase, no paralysis.

This case might have come under Group I.

Patient recovered with loss of memory during convalescence. No symptoms found among contacts.

No. I. Visits, &c., and Notices Served.

Particulars.						
Visits in respect of sickness...	...	...	...	...	...	87
No. of Rooms disinfected or sprayed	...	...	...	...	...	63
„ Notices sent to private houses, <i>re</i> sickness	...	...	...	...	...	13
„ Notices sent to Schools, <i>re</i> sickness	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ Visits to Isolation Hospital or Disinfectory	...	...	...	...	...	167

No. II. Particulars of Work Executed.

By Owners.						
To Cleanse, purify, strip, and whitewash rooms	...	...	...	...	...	8
TOTAL						8

By Occupiers.						
To Strip and whitewash rooms	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Cleanse rooms	...	...	...	...	...	16
TOTAL						17

Small Pox.

An agreement has been entered into with the Hastings Corporation for retaining certain beds for the reception and maintenance, in their Small Pox Hospital at Brede, of any cases which may occur in this district.

Isolation Hospital.

This consists of :—Firstly, an observation block of 4 beds erected on approved plans.

Secondly, a corrugated iron building, with two wards of 5 beds each for Scarlet Fever cases.

Thirdly, another building of the same style, with two wards of 3 beds each.

Fourthly, a group of 3 Berthon Huts, one being used as the Matron's sitting room and dining room, the other two having 4 beds.

There is a small brick building connected to the centre hut by a covered way which contains kitchen, maid's bedroom, and larder. A small lean-to wash-house is attached. The drainage is by a system of septic tanks, well to the rear of the premises.

During the year 24 cases were admitted, 18 of which were civilian and 6 were soldiers. One case was still under treatment at end of year.

The average stay in Hospital was as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	41 days
Diphtheria	...	...	24 „
Cases under observation,			
doubtful Scarlet Fever	...		15

Two deaths occurred among the civil population.

The Hospital was empty for 7 weeks and 4 days.

Scale of Charges for Maintenance at the Isolation Hospital, Clinch Green.

1. Where the income of patient or parent, etc., does not exceed 30s. per week no charge will be made. Alternately, no charge will be made in respect of persons living in houses of rateable value of £12 and under.

2. Where income exceeds 30s. per week, but does not exceed £200 per annum, members of family will be charged :

Patients not exceeding 14 years of age, 7s. 6d. per week.

Patients exceeding 14 years of age, 10s. 6d. per week.

Alternately, a similar charge made in respect of persons living in houses of rateable value over £12 but under £35.

3. Where income exceeds £200 per annum, members of family will be charged 15s. per week. Alternately, a like charge may be made in respect of persons living in houses of rateable value over £35.

4. The charge in respect of patients admitted from boarding schools in the town, £1 per week.

5. In case of visitors to Bexhill (*i.e.*, persons temporarily resident for not exceeding four months at a time), £1 1s. per week.

N.B.—No charge for domestic servants in classes Nos. 1 & 2.

Conveyance.

No charge will be made for persons in Class 1, or domestic servants in Class 1 and 2.

In other cases a charge of 5s. for journey.

Hospital.

Expenditure for the year ending the 30th September, 1918, as supplied by the Borough Accountant.

					£	s.	d.	
Nursing	...	...	...	...	92	10	0	
Subsidy, Small Pox Hospital	...	...	...	...	15	5	2	
Specimens examined (swabs)	...	...	...	...	11	5	6	
Maintenance of Patients—								
Meat	...	...	31	6	6			
Bread	...	...	10	16	1			
Milk and Eggs	...	...	27	13	2			
Groceries	...	...	53	18	11			
Fish, Vegetables, & Sundries	9	13	4	133	8	0		
Repairs to Buildings and Painting	...	...	...	...	26	4	8	
Fuel	...	...	...	...	31	18	6	
Horse Hire—Removal of Patients	...	...	...	...	3	15	0	
Wages	...	...	...	...	37	14	5	
Water	...	...	...	...	28	19	0	
Gas	...	...	...	...	19	18	6	
Insurance	...	...	...	...	1	7	10	
Telephones	...	...	...	...	10	15	0	
Medicine and Medical requisites	...	...	...	...	5	8	5	
National Health Insurance(Council's Contribution)	...	...	...	...	1	6	0	
Linen	...	...	...	...	34	13	0	
Sundries	...	...	...	...	13	14	1	
					£468	3	1	
Recovered from Patients	{	Civilians	8	15	11			
	{	Military	34	13	0	43	8	11
					£424	14	2	

Disinfector.

The Steam Disinfector has worked satisfactorily during the year.

The number of articles disinfected after Infectious diseases were as follows :—

CIVILIAN POPULATION.

Beds	...	...	...	2
Mattresses or Palliasses	...	...	...	18
Bolsters	...	...	...	5
Pillows	...	...	...	30
Sheets, Blankets, &c.	...	...	...	55
Cushions	...	...	...	4
Wearing Apparel, &c.	...	...	...	40
Total	...	...	...	154

ARTICLES DESTROYED.

Mattresses	...	...	...	2
Bolster	...	...	...	1
Pillows	...	...	...	2
Carpet	...	...	...	1
Mats	...	...	...	3
Wearing Apparel, etc.	...	...	...	10
Total				<u>19</u>

MILITARY.

The number of articles disinfected after Infectious diseases or Verminous or Scabies were as follows :—

Bed and Ticks	...	...	...	3
Mattresses or Palliasses	...	...	...	11
Bolsters	...	...	...	6
Pillows	...	...	...	10
Sheets, Blankets, &c.	...	...	...	71
Kit-bags	...	...	...	2
Wearing Apparel, &c.	...	...	...	104
Total				<u>207</u>

Recovered from Patients	Civilian	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Population} \quad 8 \quad 17 \quad 8 \\ \text{Military} \quad 12 \quad 10 \quad 1 \end{array} \right\}$			£21 7 9
	Population				
	Military				

During the year the bath at the Disinfecting Station was used for bathing 1 soldier who was verminous or suffering from Scabies and his clothes and blankets, etc., disinfected.

Disinfector Expenditure.

			£	s.	d.
Insurance of Boiler	...	...	2	0	6
„ „ Building	...	...		8	11
Repayment of Loans	...	...	47	3	1
Removal of bedding	...	...	9	10	0
Wages	...	...		4	10
Coal and Coke	...	...	1	11	2
Sundries	...	...		9	6
			<u>£61 8 0</u>		

Water Supply.

The town generally is supplied by the Bexhill Water and Gas Company, whose mains extend to the adjoining suburbs of Little Common and Cooden. The supply is constant and is obtained from springs or wells at Hazards Green, Sweet Willow Wood, and Buckholt. The water from Hazards Green, after aerations and filtrations on the spot, is pumped into the high level covered reservoir at Ninfield. The water derived from Sweet Willow Wood is aerated on the spot and thence pumped to the Company's filter beds at Wrestwood. The Buckholt water is also pumped to the Wrestwood filter beds for treatment.

The different sources of supply are drawn from the sandstone beneath the upper clay and removed from any possible chance of contamination.

I am informed by the Company's Engineer that the average daily output amounts to 728,916 gallons.

The number of houses in Bexhill supplied by the Water Company at the end of the year was 3,018, and of hotels, shops, stables, &c., 199.

The number of houses to which the Water Company's water was laid on during the year was 9.

The hamlet of Norman's Bay, which used to be known as Pevensey Sluice, is outside the area of the Town supply, most of the houses have rain water cisterns, and there is a supply of water drawn from the river Haven, which is passed through a shingle and sand filter into a storage tank whence the inhabitants can obtain it by means of a pump fixed over the tank.

The quarterly analysis by Dr. Bernard Dyer are here appended:—

ANALYTICAL LABORATORY,

17, GREAT TOWER STREET,

LONDON, E.C.

Results of Analysis of Samples of Town Water.

	No. 1. 12th Dec. 17. Grains per gallon.	No. 2. 13th May 18. Grains per gallon.	No. 3. 1st Nov. 18. Grains per gallon.	No. 4. 18th Feb. 19. Grains per gallon.
Total Dissolved matter	16·80	16·80	15·68	15·96
Loss on Incineration of				
Residue	1·12	1·40	1·12	1·12
Chlorine in Chlorides... (Equal to Chloride of	3·70	3·60	3·70	3·70
Sodium)	(6·10)	(5·93)	(6·10)	(6·10)
Nitrogen in Nitrates } (Equal to Nitric Acid) }	inappreci- able	inappreci- able	inappreci- able	inappreci- able
Free (actual or saline)	—	—	—	—
Ammonia... ..	·001	·001	·001	·001
Albuminoid (organic)				
Ammonia	·001	·001	·001	·001
Oxygen absorbed by				
Oxidisable Organic				
Matter, &c., from a				
solution of Perman-				
ganate of Potash at				
a temperature of				
80° Fahrenheit—				
In 15 minutes ...	·006	·007	·005	·006
In 4 hours ...	·011	·011	·011	·014
Phosphoric Acid ...	traces	traces	traces	traces
Appearances in 2ft. tube	clear	clear	clear	clear

No. 1—This water is of a high degree of purity, both chemically and bacteriologically.

No. 2—This water is satisfactorily pure both chemically and bacteriologically.

No. 3—This water is a high degree of purity both chemically and bacteriologically.

No. 4—This water is completely satisfactory, bacteriologically as well as chemically.

Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1909.

The Sanitary Inspector was appointed in July, 1913, to act under Article 1, Housing Regulations.

The number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909	...	...	2
---	-----	-----	---

The number of dwelling-houses which, on inspection, were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	2
--	-----	-----	---

The number of representations made to the local Authority, with a view to the making of closing orders	...	...	—
--	-----	-----	---

The number of closing orders made	...	...	...	—
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

The number of dwelling-houses, the defects of which were remedied without the making of closing orders	...	...	2
--	-----	-----	---

The number of dwelling houses which, after the making of closing orders, were put into a state fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

The number of houses rebuilt and enlarged	...	...	...	—
---	-----	-----	-----	---

The number of houses condemned and closed by owners without representation by, but by advice of, local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

The number of Notices sent, requiring repair	...	...	1
--	-----	-----	---

Notification of Births Act was adopted by the County Council for the County and came into operation on July 1st, 1915.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, for Year 1919.

Sanitary Certificates.

During the year the drainage system and sanitary arrangements of 3 houses were examined and tested by request for sanitary certificates. One special certificate was granted as the conditions for the issue of the same was complied with. Amount in fees received 10s. 6d.

Drainage of New Buildings under the Supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

In addition to the work stated in the following tables, the examination and testing of all new drainage work and sanitary arrangements has been carried out so as to comply with the Building Bye-laws.

Slaughter Houses.

There are one registered and three licensed slaughter houses in the district.

- No. 1 (licensed) in Freezeland Lane.
- No. 2 (registered) in High Street.
- No. 3 (licensed) in Kennels Road, Little Common.
- No. 4 (licensed) at Cobbs Hill.

Inspections.

Particulars.	Inspections
Slaughter-houses	275

In January of this year in order to release men for the Army, arrangements were made by the Local Food Control Committee and the Master Butchers, and a Pool formed in order to afford facilities for slaughtering and distribution of meat. The whole of the home killed supply of meat has been slaughtered at Mr. Pocock's premises situate in the Old Town.

The three licensed slaughter houses in the rural part of the District in consequence were not used.

Three experienced men have been employed to carry out the work, which has been done in an efficient manner.

The premises used have been kept cleansed and limewashed and the offal, etc., removed daily.

It was not necessary under the circumstances during the year to serve any notices for non-compliance of the slaughter house regulations.

The advantages of a single centre for slaughtering purposes have been made evident and show the necessity at some future date, from a sanitary point of view, the erection of a Public Abattoir.

Food Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption.

				Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Beef (Cold Storage)	...	...	...	4	1	26
Pork	...	...	...		3	4
Bacon	...	...	...	1	2	22
Mutton	...	...	...		2	4
Fresh Herrings	...	...	...	5	1	19
Mackerel	...	...	...		2	16
Sausages	...	...	...		3	17
Cheese	...	...	...		2	27
Livers, Tripe, etc.	...	...	...	1	0	3
Wheat, Barley, and Maize Flour				2	1	3
One Tin Corned Beef	...					6
One Tin Sardines						
Three Dozen Eggs						

Six sheep were found in a railway truck in a dying condition through overcrowding.

The carcasses were dressed and the meat examined, which was found unfit for human food.

Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milkshops Order, 1885.

At the end of the year there were in the district :—

19 Cowkeepers	12 Dairymen
6 Cowkeepers and Purveyors	15 Purveyors

During the year the following changes took place :—

Cowkeepers, new premises registered	..	...	...	1
„ change of occupier	...	...	...	6
„ gave up business	...	...	...	1
„ and Purveyors, new premises registered	...			1
Dairies, change of occupier	...	...	...	0
Dairies, gave up business	...	...	...	1
Purveyors, change of occupier	...	...	...	2
Purveyors, gave up business	...	...	...	1

During the year 91 visits were made to inspect the Cowsheds situate in the District, of which there are now twenty-three.

As regards construction they all comply with the regulations, with the exception of one, in this case it was necessary to call upon the occupier to provide a suitable building.

A new shed is now in course of construction, and in all probability will practically be completed at the end of the year.

To inspect the Dairies and Milkshops 34 visits were made at intervals, and with the exception of one case, they were found to be kept in a clean condition.

Milk Supply.

In the month of August several complaints were made as to the dirty condition of bottles used for the delivery of milk, on enquiry the reason given was the difficulty to obtain efficient and suitable assistance to carry out the work.

At intervals, chiefly during the summer months, complaints were made to the Local and Food Control Authorities that new milk when boiled became thick and unfit for feeding infants and young children, in consequence of which six samples were taken with a view of ascertaining if possible the quantity of milk in powder form that was being used to increase the amount above the normal supply required on account of the large number of soldiers and visitors staying in the Town.

One sample was found deficient in fat, and in consequence of which the vendor was proceeded against and fined £5.

At the beginning of October the Cowsheds were visited and the number of cows found in milk were 406, the daily quantity of milk produced being 612 gallons, in addition to which 68 gallons was retailed by Dairymen residing outside the Borough boundaries.

COWSHEDS, &c.—Inspections.

Premises.	Inspections	Notices, Verbal and Written.
Cowsheds, Dairies, or Milkshops ...	125	56

Defect Found and Notices Served, &c.

Particulars.	Found.	Complied with.
To cleanse & limewash cowsheds, dairy, or milk store	26	26
„ Thoroughly cleanse floors or walls or roofs of cowshed, dairy, or milk store	9	9
„ Repair defective walls or paving of cowshed, dairy, or milk store ...	1	1
„ Provide proper light and ventilation to cowshed, dairy, or milk store ...	1	—
„ Provide drain to cowshed	1	—
„ Cleanse out water storage tank ...	1	1
„ Cleanse udders or hindquarters of cows or hands of cowman	2	2
„ Remove accumulations of manure ...	2	2
„ Provide a proper water supply ...	1	1
„ Cleanse milking utensils	2	2
„ Register premises	7	7
„ Cover milk vessels	1	1
„ Provide New Cowshed with light ventilation, etc., and arranged so as to comply with regulations ...	1	—
„ Discontinue using sheds for cows which do not comply with Byelaws	1	—
Total... ..	56	52

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

Administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with **Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework.**

1.—Inspection.

Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	3	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	179	22
Workplaces other than Outworkers' Premises included in Part III of this report	21	1
Total	203	23

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Found.	Re-medied.
Want of Cleanliness	15	14
Overcrowding	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—
Other Nuisances	9	9
Sanitary Accommodation Unsuitable or Defective ...	2	2
Total	26	25

3.—Home Work—Out Workers.

Nature of Work.	Lists received from Employers.				Notices served on occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists.	Outwork in infected Premises Instances
	Sending twice in the year.		Sending once in the year.			
	Lists.	Work-men.	Lists.	Work-men.		
Wearing Apparel—						
Making, etc.	—	—	—	—	4	—
Furniture, & Upholstery, Curtains, &c.	—	—	—	—	1	—

During the year no lists were received from employers as to outworkers.

4.—Registered Workshops and Workplaces.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	17
Boot Makers	14
Dressmakers and Milliners	24
Laundries (including Factory Laundries)	24
Others (see list in Health Report, page 28)	176
Total number of Workshops on Register	255

5.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—	5
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)—	—
Notified by H.M. Inspector	—
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	—
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	
Certificates granted during the year	—
In use at the end of the year	4

Bakehouses.

At the beginning of the year a Bakers Pool was formed and arrangements made that the whole of the bread for the District should be manufactured and supplied from three centres. In consequence of which the usual visits for inspection was not needed.

The premises considering the difficulty of labour and extra work have been kept in such a condition as regards cleanliness, etc., so as to comply with the regulations.

In order to afford separate and improved facilities for the manufacture and baking of pastry goods, two bakehouses have been enlarged.

Inspections.

Premises.	Inspections.	Notices
Bakehouses and Flour Stores	27	6

Defects Found.

Particulars.	Found.	Re-medied.
To cleanse or whitewash Bakehouses or Flour Stores, and clean paint work	3	3
To cleanse floor of Bakehouse... ..	2	2
To discontinue keeping fuel in bakehouse	1	1
Total	6	6

Business.	Number of Premises included in Register as		
	Factory	Workshop.	Workplaces.
Artificial Stone Maker	1		
Bakers and Confectioners	3	14	
Blind Makers... ..		1	
Bottling Stores	1	3	
Boot Makers	6	8	
Brick and Sanitary Pipe Makers ...	1		
Brick Makers... ..			3
Carpenters and Joiners	3	13	
Carriage Builders and Wheelwrights	1	3	
Corn Merchants	1		
Cycle Makers... ..		7	
Dressmakers and Milliners		24	
Dressmakers (Domestic)		2	
Electric Light Works	1		
Engineers and Motor Works	3	2	
Firewood Works	4		
French Polishers, Cabinet Makers, and Upholsterers		10	
Fried Fish Shops		3	
Gas Works	1		
Hair Dressers		9	
Laundries	4	20	
Laundries (Domestic)		2	
Mineral Water Manufacturers	3	1	
Painters and Sign Writers		8	
Photographers		6	
Picture Frame Makers		1	
Plumbers and Gas Fitters		15	
Printers	3	1	
Restaurants		18	
Saddlers and Harness Makers		3	
Sausage Makers		3	
Shoeing and General Smiths		7	
Stable Yards and Motor Garages ...			15
Stone Masons... ..		1	
Tailors... ..		10	
Umbrella Repairers		1	
Watch Makers		7	
TOTAL	36	203	18

Owing to the War 2 Factories have closed down.

Complaints received during the Year.

No. of complaints received from—					
Drains and closets choked or in defective condition ...					12
Foul state of closets, urinals, privies, or waste pipes...					2
Offensive smells from sewer grids or street gullies ...					2
" cesspools overflowing ...					3
House or Workroom overcrowded or in an insanitary condition ...					4
" walls damp and leaky roofs ...					3
Animals kept in such a state as to be a nuisance ...					7
Accumulation of garden, trade refuse, or manure ...					11
Houses or premises without a proper water supply ...					4
Closets without a proper water supply ...					5
Pond, ditch, or watercourse in a foul state ...					2
Premises without dust receptacles ...					5
House refuse not removed ...					2
Stables, yards, or back passages, etc., in an insanitary condition ..					4
Discharge of black smoke ...					1
Accumulation of water in cellars ...					2
Coach-houses or temporary buildings used for sleeping purposes ...					1
Back flooding from surface water ...					1
Complaints made and found not to be a nuisance or injurious to health ...					29
Total ...					100

Complaints attended to and Inspections made.

No. of Complaints attended to ...					100
Inspections—					
" houses ...					49
" cowsheds, dairies, etc. ...					125
" bakehouses ...					27
" slaughter houses ...					275
" factories, workshops, or workplaces ...					203
" butchers, grocers, and greengrocers shops, etc. ...					336
Samples of water taken for analysis ...					3
" of milk, fat, and ice cream for analysis ...					8
Visits <i>re</i> work in hand, serving notices, and sundry purposes ...					549
Letters written in connection with drainage and other matters ...					285

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.

No. of Houses inspected ...					2
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	---

Drainage Work.

PARTICULARS.			
To drains opened for examination, <i>re</i> complaint ...	...	...	9
„ Drains opened for examination, <i>re</i> certificates ...	...	...	6
„ Visits to examine or test old drains or sanitary fittings	...	...	213
„ Visits to test by water, drains or portions of drains or examine sanitary fittings ...	...	...	424
„ Smoke test applied to drains or soil pipes ...	...	...	26
„ Notices served on Occupiers under Sec. 41 P.H.A. to enter on premises to examine drain ...	...	...	1

In the following tables are given the number of Notices served on owners or occupiers for the abatement or suppression of nuisances, or for carrying into effect other sanitary work.

NATURE OF WORK.			Verbal or Written Notice.	Compl'd with.
Drains	...	New provided and connected to sewer	2	2
„	...	Re-laid and connected to sewer ...	5	5
„	...	Repaired and made watertight ...	13	12
„	...	Provided to closet, cellar, stable, or surface water ...	16	16
„	...	Disconnected from cesspool and connected to sewer ...	—	—
„	...	New provided and connected to cesspool ...	—	—
„	...	Surface water intercepted from sewage system, or disc fixed to traps ...	9	9
„	...	Cleared or cleansed ...	15	15
Soil Pipes or Ventilators	...	Old removed and new 4in. L.C.C. pattern fixed, joints repaired or pipe carried up to form a safe outlet for sewer air ...	30	29
Closets	...	Defective pattern removed and efficient form fixed ...	9	9
„	...	Provide water closet in place of earth closet ...	3	3
„	...	New pans or traps fixed ...	4	4
„	...	External ventilation or light provided	2	2
„	...	Cleared or cleansed ...	8	8
Earth closets	...	New pails provided ...	1	1
Anti-Syphon- age pipes	...	Provided to closets, urinals, and waste pipes ...	3	3
Inspection Chambers	...	New provided, repaired, covered, or sealed down ...	40	40
Carried forward ...			160	158

NATURE OF WORK.				Verbal or Written Notice.	Compl'd with.
	Brought forward ...	...	...	160	158
F.A. inlets ...	New provided or repaired ...	...	...	11	11
Waste pipes ...	New provided, trapped, lengthened, or repaired ...	...	...	15	15
Flushing cisterns	New provided or flushing apparatus repaired ...	...	...	30	30
Scullery sinks	New provided or repaired ...	...	...	3	3
Dustbins ...	New provided ...	...	...	1	1
Wells or cisterns	Closed, repaired, cleansed, covered, or new pumps fixed ...	...	...	17	17
Cesspools ...	Emptied, cleansed, repaired, or new pumps fixed, filled up, or over- flow pipes disconnected ...	...	...	5	5
Stables, yard, scullery, etc.	Repaved, repaired, or cleansed ...	...	...	33	33
Water supply	Provided to premises, Town supply	...	...	3	3
"	Provided to closets or urinals ...	...	...	11	10
House or rooms	Cleansed or whitewashed ...	...	...	5	5
"	Overcrowded... ..	...	...	2	2
Walls, external	Rendered in cement, repaired, or damp courses provided ...	...	...	4	4
Guttering, stack pipes, etc.	New provided, repaired, cleared, or lengthened ...	...	...	19	19
Roofs, ceilings, etc.	Repaired ...	...	...	3	3
Floors, etc.	New relaid, repaired, or through ventilation provided, or site covered with concrete ...	...	...	8	8
Window frames or sashes	New provided or repaired ...	...	...	3	3
Workshops or rooms	Provide external ventilation ...	...	...	1	1
Vacant plots of land	Cleanse site, or remove refuse ...	...	...	3	3
Pond, ditch, etc.	Emptied or cleansed ...	...	...	1	1
Total ...				338	335

Work Executed by Occupiers.

PARTICULARS.					Verbal or Written Notices.		Final Notice.
To Abate overcrowding	...	...	...	...	2		—
„ Clear drain	...	...	...	...	6		—
„ Cleanse interior of house or rooms	...	...	...	...	7		—
„ Discontinue discharging black smoke	...	...	...	...	1		—
„ „ keeping animals so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	16		—
„ „ using underground rooms or cellars for sleeping purposes	...	...	...	...			
„ „ conveying offensive matter through public streets during prohibited hours	...	...	...	...	13		—
„ Empty or cleanse cesspools, ditch, water closets, earth closets, urinals, privies, yards, stables, cellars, drains, waste pipes, pigsties, etc.	...	...	...	...	39	2	
„ Remove accumulation of manure, vegetable matter, fish offal, or trade refuse	...	...	...	...	11	1	
„ Repair flushing apparatus	...	...	...	...	4		
Total					99	3	

Pigs, Pigsties, and Pork.

During the early part of the year applications were received from owners or occupiers to keep pigs. With a view to encouraging pig keeping, and thereby increase the pork supply and prevent waste, permission was authorised subject to the conditions being wholesome, the interests of the Public Health being regarded, and a suitable sty erected.

Pigsties erected : 16.

In several cases difficulties as to the removal or disposal of the manure has occurred, also complaints have been made as to the nuisance from rats.

Towards the end of the year pig keeping was commenced on land near the top of the Down, and about 150 pigs were kept.

Owing to the site not being suitable and from the want of proper buildings, drainage, etc., the premises became a nuisance to the neighbourhood, in consequence of which the pigs were removed to a farm situate outside the district.

Petroleum Acts, 1871 & 1879.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

At the end of the year there were 7 persons licensed to store and sell Petroleum Spirit.

During the year proceedings were taken against an occupier for keeping more than 60 gallons of Petrol on his premises, in a store which did not comply with the regulations and was fined £5.

American Gooseberry Mildew Order, 1912.

Visits were made to inspect consignments of Gooseberries sent into the Town, in certain cases berries affected slightly with the disease were found, but not in sufficient quantity or condition to condemn the fruit as unfit for sale.

Wart Disease (Black Scab) of Potatoes.

Enquiries and inspections were made during the time Potatoes were being lifted by allotment holders to ascertain if any disease existed, nothing was found nor any report received.

Borough of Bexhill.

REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

TO THE

Education Committee

FOR

Year ended Dec. 31st,

1918.

Co the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I present herewith Annual Report as required by the Board of Education.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

There are 7 Schools, including 12 departments.

Accommodation (at end of 1918), 2,127.

Average number on Registers, 1,563.

Average Attendance, 1,312.

Percentage of Attendance, 84.

The Education Rate for the year ending 31st March, 1918, was slightly under 1/2 in the £.

In consequence of the War the promised improvements to St. Peter's Boys' School have been shelved. The provision of the necessary increased accommodation is engaging the attention of the School Managers.

For the same reason the necessary alterations to St. Mark's School, which caters for a growing district, have been delayed. It is to be hoped that this work may be started at an early date.

EPIDEMICS.

Sidley Infant School was closed from June 17th to July 8th, The epidemic did not spread to the other Schools to any extent.

Influenza appeared in a wide-spread and virulent form in October, and most of the Schools were closed, not so much with the view of checking the epidemic, as from hardly any of the scholars attending being in a fit state to receive instruction. A number of the teachers were also affected. The dangerous character of the complications attaching to this epidemic also made it advisable that children should not be exposed to damp and cold during the initial stage of an attack.

The School closure was as follows :

St. Mary Magdalene's School, from July 10th for one week.

St. Barnabas' Infant School, from October 25th to Nov. 11th.

Down Council Infant School, from October 25th to November 18th.

St. Barnabas' Girls' School, from October 25th to Nov. 11th.

Down Council Mixed School, from October 25th to Nov. 18th.

St. Peter's Girls' and Infants' Schools, from October 28th to November 18th.

St. Peter's Boys' School, from October 30th to Nov. 18th.

St. Barnabas' Boys' School, from October 28th to Nov. 11th.

Sidley Infant School, from October 31st to November 18th.

St. Mary Magdalene's School, from Nov. 11th to Nov. 18th.

St. Mark's School, from November 18th to December 2nd.

St. James' School, The Sluice, from December 16th for one week.

Also for Influenza and Mumps combined :

Sidley Infant School, from December 10th to the holidays.

The closure of eleven Sunday Schools was also advised from October 25th to November 17th.

For Mumps alone :

St. Barnabas' Infants' School, from April 19th for 3 weeks.

Down Council Infant School, from May 7th for 4 weeks.

BACKWARD AND MENTALLY DEFICIENT CHILDREN.

The need for a special class for such children as are not up to the normal standard has been evident. It is proposed to set aside for temporary use a class room at the Down Council School. At a special inspection made it was found that 20 children needed such tuition. The class room proposed will take up to 40. A specially trained instructress will be provided. Later a separate building should be provided.

SPECIAL BUILDINGS.

It is proposed to provide buildings to accommodate :

1. Backward and mentally deficient children.
2. Clinics, Medical and Dental. To such should be attached the means for disinfection and bathing verminous cases.
3. Cookery Classes for Girls.
4. Handicraft for Boys.

This scheme is a decided step forward. I should like to see it supplemented by :

Open Air Schools.

The provision of a few beds for treatment of specially delicate children.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Selecting those at the ages of five, nine, and twelve :

208 Boys,

215 Girls, were inspected.

In addition 37 Boys,

49 Girls, were inspected as special cases.

TOTAL 509

As the Canadian troops still remained in possession of the Down Council School, the Mixed School was housed at Whindown, and the Infant School at the Malet Memorial Hall.

The Dental Clinic was held on Saturday mornings at St. Barnabas' School. I attended, as often as possible, to give gas.

I have to thank the Head Teachers for putting all possible facilities at my disposal, and clearing a class room for inspection, often at great inconvenience.

The parents have been present in 273 cases, and have shown an increasing amount of interest.

The services of the School Nurse have proved of great value, both at the inspections and in tracing contact cases.

I have to acknowledge the kind assistance of the Care Committee and their Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer in following up and securing treatment for cases brought to their notice.

A branch Tuberculosis Dispensary has been established during the year in North Street, Bexhill, by the County Council, and all cases of incipient, or threatening Tuberculosis have been instructed to report for further examination

Attention is drawn to the records of Height and Weight which are compared with :

A. Those issued by The Anthropometrical Committee of The British Association.

B. It will be seen that both in height and weight the Boys have lost considerably, and the Girls to a lesser extent.

Taken as evidence of nutrition, such loss would indicate diminution of mental and physical powers, and in the latest edition of Hygiene and Public Health, Parks & Kenwood, p. 322, is stated, "The absence of fat in a diet leads to a state of malnutrition, possibly predisposing to such diseases as tubercle, especially in children and young persons." The War diet, rationing of fats, and difficulty at times of obtaining fresh milk have probably been the main causes, and the mental strain of children whose fathers have been serving has possibly also contributed.

Certificates for obtaining of extra fats were given in 33 cases, but do not appear to have been properly followed up.

The food value of oatmeal, which is relatively rich in fats, and contains vitamins in the outer coat, has not been sufficiently appreciated.

The problem has induced me to place before the Bexhill Authority the advisability of taking the whole care for child welfare from birth into their hands. Satisfactory results are promised. The first objective should be the education of Mothers, and it is not possible to dissociate the pre-school and school ages.

DETAILS OF THE EXAMINATION.

Clothing and Footgear.—The increasing price of boots has in some instances lowered the previous high standard.

Height and Weight.—

BOYS.				GIRLS.			
	Height	Weight.			Height.	Weight.	
5 years	40·69 inches.	39·6 lbs.		5 years	40·70 inches	39·3 lbs.	
(A)	41·03 "	39·9 "		(A)	40·55 "	39·2 "	
(B)	42' "	42' "		(B)	42' "	41' "	
9 years	48·92 "	56·3 "		9 years	46·94 "	53·9 "	
(A)	49·70 "	60·4 "		(A)	48·73 "	55·5 "	
(B)	50' "	57' "		(B)	51' "	57' "	
12 years	52·96 "	70·9 "		12 years	56·01 "	74' "	
(A)	54·99 "	76·7 "		(A)	55·66 "	76·4 "	
(B)	55' "	72' "		(B)	56' "	76' "	

Cleanliness of (1) Head and (2) Body.—1. 97 per cent. of the Boys were found clean ; $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. somewhat dirty, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. dirty. 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the Girls were found clean, and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. somewhat dirty. 2.—96 per cent. of the Boys were found clean ; 2 per cent. somewhat dirty ; and 2 per cent. dirty. 99 per cent. of the Girls were found clean, and 1 per cent. somewhat dirty.

Teeth.—The good effects of the Dental Clinic are showing progressive improvement, 88 per cent. being found good, 8 per cent. fairly good, and 4 per cent. bad.

Tonsils.—18 per cent. were found slightly enlarged, and 5 per cent. enlarged and requiring treatment. Special Inspections, 17 per cent. and 7 per cent.

Adenoids.—10 per cent. were found enlarged and requiring treatment. Special inspections 16 per cent.

Submaxillary and Cervical Glands.—16 per cent. were found slightly enlarged, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. enlarged. In the Special Inspections made 21 per cent. and $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

External Eye Disease.—Strabismus was found in 11 cases, catarrh 1, conjunctivitis 4, granular lids 1.

Vision.—Myopia, requiring glasses, was found in 2 cases.

Hearing.—7 cases were found to be below normal, 9 cases of otorrhœa, 3 accumulations of wax.

Speech.—98 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. were found good. $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. stammered, 1 per cent. lisped.

Mental Condition.—96 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. were found bright, $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. were found fair, 1 per cent. were found dull, $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. backward.

Heart and Circulation.—Some disturbance of circulation was found in 15 cases ($3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.). Mitral bruit 8, dilatation 1, tachycardia 2, weak action 3.

Lungs.—Some departure from normal was found in 27 cases, mostly of a catarrhal character. 2 cases of croup, 3 of asthma, 1 of pleuritic thickening, 2 flat chest were noted.

Nervous.—25 cases were noted, mainly nervous headaches and excitability.

Tuberculosis.—A tendency was noted in 17 cases, generally shown by apical catarrh or marked tubercular glands. All cases where it appeared advisable were referred to Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Deformities were noted in 8 cases. Talipes 3. Effects of infantile paralysis 2. Spinal disease 2. Hip 1.

Other Diseases and Defects were noted in 36 cases, of which hernia 3, stomatitis 1, ulcers 1, migraine 2, displaced cartilage of knee 1, lateral curvature of spine 2, kidney trouble 1, dermatitis 2, goitre 3,

Dental Clinic Report for Year 1918.

Number of children examined (school)	..	—
Number of children examined (clinic)	..	53
Children whose parents refused treatment	..	—
Children who received complete treatment	..	—
Appointments given		379
Appointments broken		107
Fillings		41
Number of extractions with gas		183
Number of extractions with injection		122
Number of gas cases		39
Left neighbourhood		—
Scalings		2
Dressings		13

The figures shewing the work done during the first six months of year 1918, compare favourably with 1917, especially considering disadvantages under which clinic was worked.

Many thanks are due to the St. Barnabas' School for allowing us the clinic there, although not ideal it enabled us to carry on.

Again Miss Spearman, with her work in the waiting room, rendered invaluable help.

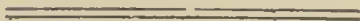
Lastly, and not least, Nurse Dudley helped to such an extent, that, hampered as I was with bad health, I could not have carried on work as I did without her.

For many reasons I regret having had to sever my connections with the Bexhill Clinic, as I invariably found great help and sympathy in what is difficult work, from the Medical Officer (Dr. Weston), Mr. Lawson, the Secretary, and Mrs. Meads.

I trust now war is over that work will be carried on more efficiently than I was able to do, and extended as its work is more understood and appreciated.

J. HERBERT BALL,

L.D.S., R.C.S., ENG.



Dental Clinic Report, September 14th to December 7th, 1918, inclusive.

The Clinic was re-opened on September 14th after the summer holidays. It was held on nine Saturdays during the Christmas term, and was closed on four consecutive Saturdays, due to influenza, and once for the General Election.

The figures are as follows :—

Clinic opened	..	..	..	9 times.
Number of children examined at Clinic	..			18
Appointments given	..	..	..	118
Appointments not kept	..	..	..	48
Fillings	..	..	..	60
Extractions with gas	..	..	..	43
Extractions with injection		..	..	46
Number of gas cases	.	..	..	11
Dressings	..	..	..	7
Scalings	..	..	..	1

The report for previous terms of the year is given by Mr. Ball, L.D.S., who was acting as School Dentist, during my absence.

C. H. BRADNAM, L.D.S., R.C.S., ENG.

**TABLE I.—NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED 1st JANUARY, 1917.
TO 31st DECEMBER. 1918.**

A. "CODE" GROUPS.

Age.			Entrants.				
			3	4	5	6	Other Ages. Total.
Boys	..	..	—	—	58	—	— 58
Girls	..	..	—	—	74	—	— 74
Totals	..	..	—	—	132	—	— 132

Age.			Inter- mediate Group.	Leavers.				Grand Total.
			8	12	13	14	Other Ages. Total.	
Boys	..	—	77	—	—	—	— 77	77
Girls	.	—	67	—	—	—	— 67	67
Totals	.	—	144	—	—	—	— 144	144

B. GROUPS OTHER THAN "CODE."*

(1)		Intermediate Group (other than 8 years). (9 years). (2)	Special cases. (3)	Re-examinations (i.e., No. of Children Re- Examined). (4)
Boys	..	73	—	37
Girls	..	74	—	49
Totals	..	147	—	86

* In areas where routine inspections have been suspended and the "ailing children" basis adopted, the number of children inspected should be entered in column 3.

**TABLE II.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF
MEDICAL INSPECTION IN 1918.**

Defect or Disease.				Code Groups.		Specials.	
				Number referred for treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)			
Skin	Malnutrition ..	—	—				
	Uncleanliness—						
	Head	—	7				
	Body	—	10				
Skin ..	{ Ringworm :						
	{ Head	—	—				
	{ Body	—	—				
	{ Scabies	—	—				
	{ Impetigo	—	—				
	Other Disease ..	—	—				
Eye ..	{ Defective Vision and						
	{ Squint	—	—				
	External Eye Disease	22	—	—		6	
Ear ..	{ Defective Hearing ..		—				
	{ Ear Disease	9	—	—		6	
Teeth	Dental Disease (see N.B. (2) below) ..	See Report of School Dentist.					
Nose and Throat	{ Enlarged Tonsils						
	{ Adenoids	43	112	—		30	
	{ Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids						
	Defective Speech ..	—	—	—		2	
Heart and Circulation.	{ Heart Disease—						
	{ Organic	—	1				
	{ Functional	—	14	—		9	
	Anæmia	—	1				

TABLE II—Continued.

Defect or Disease.		Code Groups.		Specials.	
		Number referred for treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Lungs	Pulmonary tuberculosis—				
	Definite ..	—	—		
	Suspected ..	—	1		
	Chronic Bronchitis	—	—		
	Other Disease ..	—	26	—	9
Nervous System	Epilepsy ..	—	—		
	Chorea ..	—	—		
	Other Disease ..	—	—		
	Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis—				
	Glands ..	—	3		
	Bones and Joints	—	—		
	Other Forms ..	—	14		
	Rickets ..	—	—		
	Deformities ..	—	5		
	Other Defects or Diseases ..	—	36	—	13

N.B.—(1) In areas where the routine medical inspection of the groups of children prescribed by the Code is temporarily suspended, and the examination of ailing children of all ages is undertaken instead, a note should be made to this effect, and the particulars should be given under the head of "specials" in Columns (4) and (5).

(2) It will be observed that the headings "Clothing" and "Footgear" have been omitted. A short reference should be made to these in the body of the Report. As regards "Teeth," particulars should be given in the statements of the working of schemes of dental inspection and treatment where a scheme is in operation.

TABLE III.—NUMERICAL RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA IN 1918.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
Blind (including partially blind).			Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	
			Attending Certified Schools for the Blind ..	1	—	1
			Not at School ..	—	—	—
Deaf and Dumb (including partially deaf).			Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	1	1
			Attending Certified Schools for the Deaf ..	—	—	—
			Not at School ..	—	—	—
Mentally Deficient.	Feeble Minded.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—		
		Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ..	1	—	1	
		Notified to the Local (Control) Authority during the year ..	—	—	—	
		Not at School ..	1	—	1	
	Imbeciles.	At School ..	—	—	—	
		Not at School ..	—	—	—	
Idiots.			—	—	—	
Epileptics.			Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
			Attending Certified School for Epileptics ..	—	—	—
			Not at School ..	—	—	—
Physically Defective.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—	
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ..	—	—	—	
		Not at School ..	1	1	2	
	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—	
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ..	—	—	—	
		Not at School ..	—	—	—	
	Cripples others than Tubercular.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—	
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ..	—	—	—	
		Not at School ..	—	—	—	
Dull or Backward.*		Retarded 2 years ..	23	8	31	
		Retarded 3 years ..	—	—	—	

* Judged according to age and standard.

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1918.

Condition.	No. of defects found for which treatment was considered necessary.			No. of defects for which no report is available.	No. of defects treated.	Results of Treatment.			No. of defects not treated.	Per-centage of defects treated.
	From previous year.	New.	Total.			Remedied.	Improved.	Unchanged.		
Clothing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Footgear ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cleanliness of Head ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cleanliness of Body ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nutrition ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nose and Throat ..	10	43	53	—	14	14	—	—	39	26
External Eye Disease ..	—	22	22	—	11	11	—	—	11	50
Ear Disease ...	2	9	11	—	7	7	—	—	4	36
Teeth ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart and Circulation ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lungs ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nervous System ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skin ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	100
Rickets ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deformities ..	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	2	—	100
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Speech ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mental Condition ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vision and Squint ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hearing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	12	77	89	—	35	32	1	2	54	61

32 Out-Patient Letters supplied by Care Committee. Children with Ear trouble treated by syringing (chiefly secretion of wax relieved).

— children had glasses provided through the East Sussex Hospital.

26 Children have been supplied with milk.

9 cases excluded for Scabies.

**TABLE V.—INSPECTION, TREATMENT, ETC., OF CHILDREN
DURING 1918.**

(1) The total number of children medically inspected (whether Code Group, special or ailing child).	509
(2) The number of children in (1) suffering from defects (other than uncleanness or defective clothing or footgear) who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment).	288
(3) The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanness, defective clothing, etc.).	74
(4) The number of children in (3) who received treatment for one or more defects (excluding uncleanness, defective clothing, etc.).	35

1 Child sent to Margate Sea Bathing Hospital for 1 month
(Spinal Treatment).

2 cases X-Rayed for Spinal trouble.

